

Application No. 10/678,303
Reply to Office Action of October 18, 2005

Docket No.: A8319.0025/P025

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached two sheets of drawings includes changes to Figures 25, 26A and 26B.

Attachment: Replacement sheets

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REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed on October 18, 2005. Claims 1-6, 8, 16, 17, 20 and 21 have been cancelled. Claims 7, 9, 10 and 15 have been amended, and new claims 22-29 have been added. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Figures 25, 26A and 26B are objected to because they should be designated by a legend such as "Prior Art." As requested, Applicants are submitting herewith two replacement sheets containing Figures 25, 26A and 26B designated as "Prior Art."

Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over admitted prior art in Figures 25, 26A and 26B ("APA") and further in view of Motomura Nobuatsu et al., JP 9-236666 and Kammeraad et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,207,957. Claims 1-6, 8, 16, 17, 20 and 21 have been cancelled. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

The unique characteristics of the claimed invention provide a highly reliable semiconductor circuit. In addition, the claimed invention provides detecting elements that can be separated. The detecting elements, by way of element holding members, are detachably attached to the semiconductor circuit. Such construction provides an increased degree of freedom for manufacturing and maintenance. For example, the specification provides that the "detector element 71a is detachably fixed by the cathode spring electrode 55a. ... The detector element 71a can be detached ..." Specification, page 27, line 16 to page 28, line 14. See also specification, page 25, line 23 to page 26, line 7, and associated Figures of the specification.

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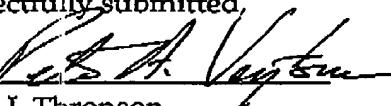
The claims have been amended such that the application contains four independent claims: 10, 15, 22 and 27. Claim 10, for example, recites "an element holding member which detachably holds said plurality of radiation detector elements and has a plurality of first electric connecting portions ... and a plurality of second electric connecting portions." Claim 10 also recites that the "element holding member has a plurality of first connector portions separately connected to said plurality of first electric connecting portions and a second connector connected to each of said plurality of second electric connecting portions." Independent claims 15, 22 and 27 also recite features that detachably hold radiation detector elements.

The cited references, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest these limitations, and claims 10, 15, 22 and 27 are allowable for at least these reasons. Dependent claims should be allowed together with their base claims, and also because the unique combinations recited in the dependent claims are neither taught nor suggested by the cited references.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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